NPL Site Narrative for Crazy Horse Sanitary Landfill

CRAZY HORSE SANITARY LANDFILL
Salinas, California

Federal Register Notice: August 30, 1990

Conditions at proposal (June 24, 1988): The Crazy Horse Sanitary Landfill is on Crazy Horse Canyon Road within the southeastern portion of the hilly region in Salinas in northern Monterey County, California. The 125-acre site is owned by the City of Salinas and operated by Salinas Disposal Services. Prior to 1950, the site operated as an open burning dump. Since 1950, it has been a sanitary landfill. In 1977, it received a permit from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (CRWQCB) to accept residential, commercial, and nonhazardous industrial wastes. Some pesticide containers have been disposed of at the facility after triple-rinsing as required by California law. The CRWQCB permit prohibits accepting hazardous waste. According to Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., its plant in Salinas disposed of large quantities of "banbury" wastes (which include rubber materials, carbon black, other fillers, and oils) and mixed solvents (mainly benzene and toluene) at the site from the early 1970s to about 1982.

In February 1985, CRWQCB sampled three downgradient residential wells. They were found to be contaminated with volatile organic chemicals, including benzene and toluene. An estimated 6,200 people obtain drinking water from private wells

within 3 miles of the site.

A consultant to the City of Salinas conducted an extensive ground water investigation in March 1985 to determine if the site is a source of the off-site residential well contamination. The consultant concluded that the site is one of the sources. However, the analytical results suggested that there may be a secondary source on private property adjacent to the landfill. Following the investigation, Salinas started to implement a system to clean up contaminated ground water.

In June 1987, Salinas purchased the homes with contaminated wells and bulldozed them. The city also pumped water from wells in an attempt to stabilize the ground water contamination.

Status (August 30, 1990): In May 1989, Salinas completed the ground water system, which involves pumping contaminated ground water to the surface via 23 extraction wells, passing it through a passive air stripper, and treating the gases removed in the stripper with activated carbon before they are discharged to the atmosphere. Some treated water is injected into the subsurface and some is used in dust control. EPA continues to monitor the remedial work at the site.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaulated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See 56 FR 5600, February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]